

I claim:

1. A method for identifying aberrant behavior of a financial instrument comprising the steps of:
- 5 (a) recording the closing price, volume and number of transactions conducted for the financial instrument in a selected trading session;
- (b) identifying a plurality of time periods, each of said time periods terminating with the trading session of the financial instrument immediately preceding the most recent trading session;
- 10 (c) calculating the average and standard deviation of the price, volume and number of transactions during each of the time periods;
- (d) determining whether the closing price, volume and number of transactions differs from the average of the corresponding component during each of the time periods by a selected number of standard deviations and for each case in which such a difference exists, recording an aberrant flag
- 15 (e) counting the number of aberrant flag;
- (f) reporting the existence of at least one aberrant flag.

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